

Additional Parking Policies

Street Cleaning Regulation

- Signs are posted on each street designating the days for cleaning. Residents must comply with the dates noted on the signs.

Over 48 Hours Violation

- Any vehicle remaining in the same space on any city street for 48 hours is subject to ticket and tow.

Commercial Overnight Violation

- Vehicles displaying commercial license plates, insured for commercial use or that call attention to a business enterprise are not allowed to park overnight from 12:00 midnight. – 6:00 A.M.

Moving Vans

- To reserve a space in front of your building for a moving van an application must be submitted 3 business days prior to the moving date. Once the application has been approved you may purchase a Temporary Parking Restriction sign (\$3 each). Moving vans may be kept on the street overnight if the space is reserved for two consecutive days.

20 Feet From Intersection & One Foot From Curb

- These policies are designed to maintain sufficient passage space to accommodate emergency vehicles and insure the safe flow of traffic. Somerville's narrow streets require strict enforcement of these rules.

Crosswalks, Bus Stops, Fire Lanes, and Hydrants

- The City prioritizes the safety of its residents and visitors and asks that you obey all posted parking regulations.

Other Ticketed Violations

- Taxi Stand; Meter/Designated Overtime; Restricted Zone; Facing Wrong Way; Loading Zone; Obstructing Driveway; Traffic Island; Leaving less than 12 Foot Passage; No Stopping; Double Parking; Handicap Ramps and Spots.

Department of Traffic & Parking

133 Holland St – Somerville, MA 02144
617-625-6600 ext. 7900

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Thursday: 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Friday: 9 a.m. – 12 noon

Hearings by appointment only.

Pay-by-phone credit card service available 617-625-1951

Pay-by-web credit card www.ci.somerville.ma.us

Updated: 01/06



Parking Policies **Department of Traffic & Parking** **City of Somerville, MA** **James Kotzuba, Director**

Residential Permit Parking

- Streets marked as “Permit Parking Only” require a residential sticker or visitor placard. To obtain a residential sticker (\$10) you must bring the following to the Traffic & Parking office:
 - a valid registration showing Somerville as the principal place of garaging. Registrations with a sticker provided by the Registry noting a Somerville address change will be verified before a permit is issued, *and*;
 - a proof of residency with either a bank statement or a current (dated within 30 days of obtaining the permit) gas, electric, telephone, or cable bill.
- The \$10 fee is waived for senior citizens (60+) and cars with HP plates or placards.
- **Permits may now also be renewed by mail.**

Visitor Cards

- Residents receive two visitor cards (\$1 each) per household on streets that require permit parking. **These cards are valid two days per week only** and should be displayed on the dashboard. To obtain visitor cards you must show a proof of residency (see above).
- Any abuse of the Visitor Card or other stickers will result in the cancellation of your privileges.

Disputing a Ticket

- If you believe you have been improperly ticketed for a parking violation and would like a hearing, you have two options:
 - 1) Mail a copy of the ticket along with a signed letter and any supporting documentation to Traffic & Parking. Decisions will be returned within 21 days, or;
 - 2) A hearing will automatically be scheduled, and a notice issued, for any violations not paid in full within 21 days. If you can't attend the hearing on your scheduled date you must contact Traffic & Parking at 617-625-6600 ext. 7900. **All in-person hearings require an appointment.**

Paying a Ticket (6 Different Methods):

- 1) In person at Traffic & Parking.
- 2) Mailing a check to Traffic & Parking.
- 3) Delivering a check to the drop-off box at City Hall.
- 4) Pay-by-phone credit card service @ 617-625-1951.
- 5) Pay-by-web credit card service on the City website.
- 6) Pay-by-web electronic checking on the City website.

Snow Emergency Regulations

The city's snow emergency policy is designed to clear streets quickly and effectively during a storm and to guarantee open, passable streets during and after the storm. This is often a difficult task in a city as densely populated as Somerville. In the past, failure to enforce the policy has led to impassable streets and snowed-in parking lots, resulting in inconvenienced residents, reduced commerce, and endangered public safety.

To ensure effective snow removal and avoid related problems, the City has adopted an aggressive policy toward making sure roadways are cleared in advance of a storm so snow plows can do their work. Residents are advised to read the following procedures carefully:

Declaration of a Snow Emergency

- A snow emergency will be declared when **four or more inches of snow are predicted**.
- The emergency will be declared six hours before the storm is predicted to begin.
- Residents have four hours after the snow declaration to move their cars. Ticketing and towing will begin four hours after the emergency takes effect. **Towing before the snow hits the ground is necessary to ensure clear streets for the plows.**
- It is strongly advised that residents move their cars as soon as an emergency is declared in order to avoid any confusion about timelines.

Communication of a Snow Emergency

Above all, it is the vehicle owner's responsibility to seek out information regarding snow emergencies during the winter months. The City will do everything it can to make this information easily accessible:

- The Communications Department will notify the local access television channel (Channel 16 for Comcast; Channel 13 for RCN) and all major broadcast channels and radio stations.
- The Somerville Police will immediately begin warning residents to move their cars.
- Residents may call the 24-hour Snow Line at 617-628-SNOW (7669) to find out when an emergency is in effect.
- Residents may sign up to receive an emailed snow alert at www.ci.somerville.ma.us

Parking, Ticketing, and Towing Rules During a Snow Emergency

- Parking is only allowed on the odd-numbered side of the street during a snow emergency unless otherwise posted. Residents must either move their cars or, if they cannot find a space, move to another location (see available City lots below).
- Ticketing (\$100 fine) of cars parked on the even-numbered side of the street, as well as the towing of cars parked there, will commence on all streets four hours after the emergency is declared.
- Again, it is strongly advised that residents move their cars as soon as an emergency is declared to avoid any confusion about timelines.

Parking, Ticketing and Towing Rules After a Snow Emergency

- Permit parking enforcement will resume 24 hours after the snow emergency has been lifted. It is the responsibility of the resident to clean off their vehicle and ensure their Residential or Visitor parking permit is visible. Parking Control Officers are not authorized to remove snow from any vehicle.
- City Ordinance restricts any vehicle from remaining in the same space on any street for a period exceeding 48 hours. This violation will be strictly enforced on both the odd and even sides of the street 48 hours after the snow emergency has been lifted. Failure to comply will result in the ticketing and potential towing of the vehicle.

Off-Street Parking Lots Open During Snow Emergency

- Residents may park in the designated areas listed below during a snow emergency.
 - Ward 1 – East Somerville Community School, 115 Pearl St.
 - Ward 2 – SCAT, Kiley Barrel Municipal Lots, Union Sq.
 - Ward 3 – Cummings School, 42 Prescott St.
 - Ward 4 – Healey School, 5 Meacham St.
 - Ward 5 – Brown School, 201 Willow Ave.
 - Ward 6 – Powder House School, 1060 Broadway
 - Ward 7 – West Somerville School, 177 Powder House Blvd.
 - City Hall Concourse
 - Central Library
 - West Branch Library
 - All metered municipal lots
- For additional parking locations, see snow emergency procedures at www.ci.somerville.ma.us
- Once the snow emergency is lifted, vehicles must be removed within 2 hours.